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1. (Currently Amended) A method for preparing a presentation, comprising:

connecting a plurality of geographically dispersed contributors to a controller through a network to ~~concurrently~~ collaborate to prepare the presentation;

allowing the contributors to propose contributions to the presentation, the proposed contributions residing on storage devices under the control of the contributors;

making the proposed contributions available for concurrent viewing, editing and comment by the contributors; and

managing the preparation of the presentation by including allowing the controller to select one or more of the proposed contributions, selected by the controller, and  
~~providing the controller access through the network to the storage devices to retrieve the selected contributions for inclusion into~~ in the presentation.

Claims 2-5 (Canceled)

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[2]]1, ~~wherein~~ connecting the contributors to the controller managing the preparation of the presentation further comprises:

~~connecting the contributors to the controller to provide~~ making instructions from the contributors to the controller for preparing the presentation visible to the controller over the network.

Claim 7 (Canceled)

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[7]]1, wherein managing the preparation of the presentation by including one or

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more of the proposed contributions selected by the controller further comprises:

including the script includes a path for retrieving a selected contribution through the network from a storage device during a display of the presentation.

Claims 9-37 (Canceled)

38. (Currently Amended) A system for preparing a presentation, comprising:

a controller terminal for connecting through a network to a plurality of geographically dispersed contributor terminals to allow contributors to ~~concurrently~~ collaborate to prepare the presentation, the terminal operable to allow the contributors to propose contributions to the presentation that reside on storage devices under the control of the contributors, the terminal further operable to make the proposed contributions available through the network for concurrent viewing, editing and comment by contributors, to allow a controller to manage the preparation of the presentation by selecting one or more of the proposed contributions for inclusion into the presentation, and to provide the controller access through the network to the storage devices to retrieve the selected contributions for inclusion into the presentation; and

a controller storage device connected to the controller terminal for storing the presentation ~~and including one or more of~~ the selected contributions.

Claims 39-42 (Canceled)

43. (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~[[39]]~~ 38, wherein the controller terminal further comprises:

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a controller terminal operable to connect the contributors to the controller to provide instructions to the controller for preparing the presentation.

Claim 44 (Canceled)

45. (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~[[44]]~~38, wherein the controller terminal further comprises:

a controller terminal operable to prepare a presentation script, the script including a path for retrieving a selected contribution through the network from a storage device during presentation.

Claims 46-52 (Canceled)

53. (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~[[61]]~~38, wherein the controller terminal comprises:

a controller terminal operable to retrieve a selected contribution from the respective storage device ~~immediately prior to displaying the selected contribution~~ during display of the prepared presentation.

Claims 54-70 (Canceled)

71. (Currently Amended) A method for making a presentation, comprising:

connecting a plurality of geographically dispersed contributors to a controller through a network to ~~concurrently~~ make contributions to by concurrently editing the presentation, the contributions residing on storage devices under the control of the contributors;

~~— providing the controller access through the network to the storage devices to retrieve the contributions for inclusion into the presentation;~~

~~transferring one or more contributions from the storage devices to the controller immediately prior to display; and~~

~~displaying the transferred contributions selected by the controller as part of the presentation.~~

Claims 72-73 (Canceled)

74. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 71, wherein connecting the contributors to the controller further comprises:

concurrently connecting the contributors to the controller to provide instructions to the controller for preparing the presentation.

75. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 74, wherein concurrently connecting the contributors to the controller to provide instructions to the controller comprises:

connecting the contributors to the controller to concurrently provide instructions to the controller to prepare a presentation script identifying the selected contributions to be included in the presentation.

76. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 75, wherein the script includes a path for retrieving a selected contribution through the network ~~from a storage device~~ during the presentation.

Claims 77-83 (Canceled)

84. (Currently Amended) A system for making a presentation, comprising:

a controller terminal for connecting through a network to a plurality of geographically dispersed contributor terminals to allow contributors to concurrently make contributions to [[the]] a presentation that reside on storage devices under the control of the contributors, the terminal further operable to provide the controller access through the network to the storage devices to retrieve one or more contributions for inclusion into the presentation immediately prior to display and to display the retrieved contributions as part of the presentation by concurrently editing the presentation; and

a controller storage device connected to the controller terminal for storing the presentation and one or more of the contributions selected by an operator of the controller terminal.

Claims 85-86 (Canceled)

87. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 84, wherein the controller terminal further comprises:

a controller terminal operable to connect the contributors to the controller to provide instructions to the controller for preparing a script for the presentation.

88. (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~[[87]]~~ 84, wherein the controller terminal comprises:

a controller terminal operable to connect the contributors to the controller to concurrently provide instructions to the controller to prepare a presentation script identifying the selected contributions to be included in the presentation.

89. (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~[[88]]~~ 84, wherein the controller terminal comprises:

a controller terminal operable to prepare a presentation script including a path for retrieving a selected contribution through the network ~~from a storage device~~ during the presentation.

Claims 90-94 (Canceled)

95. (New) A method for preparing a script for a presentation, comprising:

connecting a plurality of geographically dispersed potential contributors to a control operator through a network to create a virtual scripting office for the joint preparation in real time of a script for a presentation by the control operator and the potential contributors;

streaming elements of the script from the control operator to the contributors together with software tools for modifying the script;

accepting modifications to the script proposed by more than one of the contributors at the same time as temporary script elements; and

incorporating one or more of the proposed modifications into the script under the control of the control operator.

96. (New) The invention of claim 95 wherein connecting the contributors to the control operator further comprises:

streaming live video images of the contributors to the control operator in real time during the joint preparation of the script.

97. (New) The invention of claims 95 or 96 further comprising:

incorporating one or more URL addresses in the script for retrieval of one or more script elements during the presentation.

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98. (New) The invention of claims 95 or 96 further comprising:  
simultaneously displaying the proposed modifications to the  
control operator.

99. (New) The invention of claim 98 wherein the streaming the  
script elements further comprises:  
simultaneously displaying the proposed modifications to the  
contributors.

100. (New) The invention of claims 95 or 96 wherein connecting  
the contributors to the control operator further comprises:  
streaming live video images of the contributors to the  
control operator in real time during the joint preparation of the  
script.

101. (New) The invention of claim 100 wherein connecting the  
contributors to the control operator further comprises:  
streaming a live video image of the control operator to the  
contributors in real time during the joint preparation of the  
script.